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**SENATE BILL 5057**

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**State of Washington**

**67th Legislature**

**2021 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Hasegawa and Hunt

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1 AN ACT Relating to educator certification; amending RCW  
2 28A.410.220, 28A.410.2211, and 28A.410.270; creating a new section;  
3 repealing RCW 28A.410.280; and providing an expiration date.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) Washington professional educator  
6 standards board-approved teacher preparation programs may recommend  
7 candidates for residency teacher certification who have not completed  
8 a teaching performance assessment. A professional educator standards  
9 board-approved teacher preparation program must recommend for  
10 residency teacher certification any candidate who has not completed a  
11 teaching performance assessment in current or previous years if the  
12 candidate has met all other requirements for program completion.

13 (2) This section expires September 1, 2022.

14 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.410.220 and 2019 c 121 s 1 are each amended to  
15 read as follows:

16 (1)(a) The Washington professional educator standards board shall  
17 make available a means of assessing an applicant's knowledge in the  
18 basic skills. For the purposes of this section, "basic skills" means  
19 the subjects of at least reading, writing, and mathematics. An  
20 applicant must take this basic skills assessment, or an alternative

1 or equivalent basic skills assessment as determined by the Washington  
2 professional educator standards board, and report the individual  
3 results to the Washington professional educator standards board and  
4 an approved teacher preparation program, for admission to the  
5 approved teacher preparation program.

6 (b) An approved teacher preparation program may use the results  
7 of the basic skills assessment, or an alternative or equivalent basic  
8 skills assessment as determined by the Washington professional  
9 educator standards board, as a formative assessment of academic  
10 strengths and weakness in determining the candidate's readiness for  
11 the program.

12 (c) The Washington professional educator standards board may  
13 establish criteria to ensure that persons from out-of-state who are  
14 applying for residency certification and persons applying to master's  
15 degree level teacher preparation programs can demonstrate to the  
16 board's satisfaction that they have the requisite basic skills.

17 (d) The Washington professional educator standards board may  
18 identify and accept other tests and test scores as long as the tests  
19 are comparable in rigor to the basic skills assessment and candidates  
20 meet or exceed the basic skills requirements established by the  
21 board.

22 (2) (~~The Washington professional educator standards board shall~~  
23 ~~set performance standards and develop, pilot, and implement a uniform~~  
24 ~~and externally administered)) Applicants for certification may not be  
25 required to perform a professional-level certification assessment  
26 ~~((based on demonstrated teaching skill. In the development of this~~  
27 ~~assessment, consideration shall be given to changes in professional~~  
28 ~~certification program components such as the culminating seminar)) in  
29 order to receive a residency certificate under this section. (~~(+3+)~~)~~~~

30 Beginning not later than September 1, 2002, the Washington  
31 professional educator standards board shall provide for the initial  
32 piloting and implementation of a means of assessing an applicant's  
33 knowledge in the subjects for which the applicant has applied for an  
34 endorsement to his or her residency or professional teaching  
35 certificate. The assessment of subject knowledge shall not include  
36 instructional methodology. Beginning September 1, 2005, passing this  
37 assessment shall be required to receive an endorsement for  
38 certification purposes.

39 (~~(+4+)~~) (3) The Washington professional educator standards board  
40 may permit exceptions from the assessment requirements under

1 subsections (1) ~~((7))~~ and (2) ~~((7 and (3)))~~ of this section on a case-  
2 by-case basis.

3 ~~((5))~~ (4) The Washington professional educator standards board  
4 shall provide for reasonable accommodations for individuals who are  
5 required to take the assessments in subsections (1) ~~((7))~~ and (2) ~~((7~~  
6 ~~or (3)))~~ of this section if the individuals have learning or other  
7 disabilities.

8 ~~((6))~~ (5) With the exception of applicants exempt from the  
9 requirements of subsection ~~((s))~~ (2) ~~((and (3)))~~ of this section, an  
10 applicant must achieve a minimum assessment score or scores  
11 established by the Washington professional educator standards board  
12 on each of the assessments under subsection ~~((s))~~ (2) ~~((and (3)))~~ of  
13 this section.

14 ~~((7))~~ (6) The Washington professional educator standards board  
15 and superintendent of public instruction, as determined by the  
16 Washington professional educator standards board, may contract with  
17 one or more third parties for:

18 (a) The development, purchase, administration, scoring, and  
19 reporting of scores of the assessments established by the Washington  
20 professional educator standards board under subsections (1) ~~((7))~~ and  
21 (2) ~~((7 and (3)))~~ of this section;

22 (b) Related clerical and administrative activities; or

23 (c) Any combination of the purposes in this subsection.

24 ~~((8))~~ (7) Applicants for admission to a Washington teacher  
25 preparation program and applicants for residency and professional  
26 certificates who are required to successfully complete one or more of  
27 the assessments under subsections (1) ~~((7))~~ and (2) ~~((7 and (3)))~~ of  
28 this section, and who are charged a fee for the assessment by a third  
29 party contracted with under subsection ~~((7))~~ (6) of this section,  
30 shall pay the fee charged by the contractor directly to the  
31 contractor. Such fees shall be reasonably related to the actual costs  
32 of the contractor in providing the assessment.

33 ~~((9))~~ (8) The superintendent of public instruction is  
34 responsible for supervision and providing support services to  
35 administer this section.

36 ~~((10))~~ (9) The Washington professional educator standards board  
37 shall collaboratively select or develop and implement the applicable  
38 assessments and minimum assessment scores required under this section  
39 with the superintendent of public instruction and shall provide  
40 opportunities for representatives of other interested educational

1 organizations to participate in the selection or development and  
2 implementation of such assessments in a manner deemed appropriate by  
3 the Washington professional educator standards board.

4 ~~((11))~~ (10) The Washington professional educator standards  
5 board shall adopt rules under chapter 34.05 RCW that are reasonably  
6 necessary for the effective and efficient implementation of this  
7 section.

8 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.410.2211 and 2011 2nd sp.s. c 2 s 2 are each  
9 amended to read as follows:

10 (1) The professional educator standards board shall revise  
11 assessments for prospective teachers and teachers adding subject area  
12 endorsements required for teacher certification under RCW 28A.410.220  
13 to measure the revised standards in RCW 28A.410.221.

14 (2) ~~((In implementing the evidence-based assessment of teaching  
15 effectiveness under RCW 28A.410.280, the))~~ The professional educator  
16 standards board shall require that successful candidates for the  
17 residency certificate demonstrate effective subject specific  
18 instructional methods that address the revised standards.

19 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28A.410.270 and 2019 c 386 s 3 are each amended to  
20 read as follows:

21 (1)(a) The Washington professional educator standards board shall  
22 adopt a set of articulated teacher knowledge, skill, and performance  
23 standards for effective teaching that are evidence-based, measurable,  
24 meaningful, and documented in high quality research as being  
25 associated with improved student learning. The standards shall be  
26 calibrated for each level along the entire career continuum.

27 (b) In developing the standards, the board shall, to the extent  
28 possible, incorporate standards for cultural competency along the  
29 entire continuum. For the purposes of this subsection, "cultural  
30 competency" includes knowledge of student cultural histories and  
31 contexts, as well as family norms and values in different cultures;  
32 knowledge and skills in accessing community resources and community  
33 and parent outreach; and skills in adapting instruction to students'  
34 experiences and identifying cultural contexts for individual  
35 students.

36 (c) By January 1, 2020, in order to ensure that teachers can  
37 recognize signs of emotional or behavioral distress in students and  
38 appropriately refer students for assistance and support, the

1 Washington professional educator standards board shall incorporate  
2 along the entire continuum the social-emotional learning standards  
3 and benchmarks recommended by the social-emotional learning  
4 benchmarks work group in its October 1, 2016, final report titled,  
5 "addressing social emotional learning in Washington's K-12 public  
6 schools." In incorporating the social-emotional learning standards  
7 and benchmarks, the Washington professional educator standards board  
8 must include related competencies, such as trauma-informed practices,  
9 consideration of adverse childhood experiences, mental health  
10 literacy, antibullying strategies, and culturally sustaining  
11 practices.

12 (d) By January 1, 2022, the Washington professional educator  
13 standards board shall develop and implement a statewide rubric to  
14 measure cultural competency standards required under (b) of this  
15 subsection.

16 (2) The Washington professional educator standards board shall  
17 adopt a definition of master teacher, with a comparable level of  
18 increased competency between professional certification level and  
19 master level as between professional certification level and national  
20 board certification. Within the definition established by the  
21 Washington professional educator standards board, teachers certified  
22 through the national board for professional teaching standards shall  
23 be considered master teachers.

24 (3) The Washington professional educator standards board shall  
25 maintain a uniform, statewide, valid, and reliable classroom-based  
26 means of evaluating teacher effectiveness as a culminating measure at  
27 the preservice level that is to be used during the student-teaching  
28 field experience. This assessment shall include multiple measures of  
29 teacher performance in classrooms, evidence of positive impact on  
30 student learning, and shall include review of artifacts, such as use  
31 of a variety of assessment and instructional strategies, and student  
32 work.

33 (4) Award of a professional certificate shall be based on a  
34 minimum of two years of successful teaching experience as defined by  
35 the board, and may not require candidates to enroll in a professional  
36 certification program.

37 (5) Educator preparation programs approved to offer the residency  
38 teaching certificate shall be required to demonstrate how the program  
39 produces effective teachers as evidenced by the measures established

1 under this section and other criteria established by the Washington  
2 professional educator standards board.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** RCW 28A.410.280 (Evidence-based assessment  
4 of teaching effectiveness—Teacher preparation program requirement)  
5 and 2010 c 235 s 501 are each repealed.

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